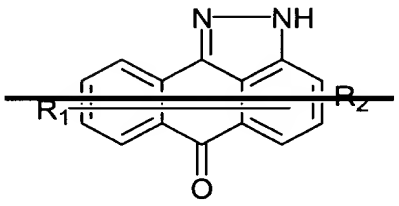
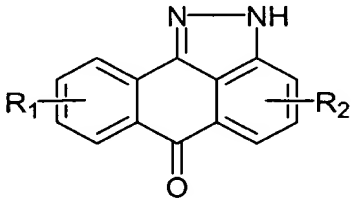
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A compound having the structure:

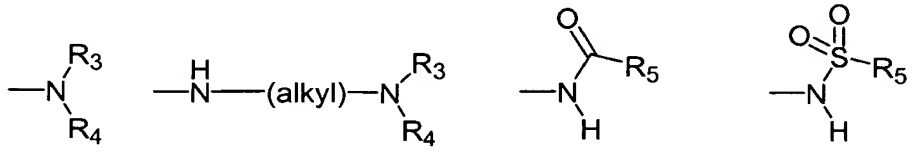




or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 and R_2 are optional substituents that are the same or different and independently represent nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, aryl, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



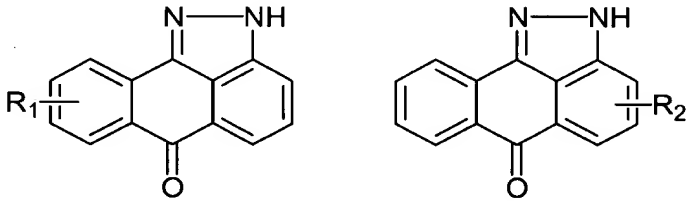
(a) (b) (c) (d)

R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, carbocyclic aromatic, heterocyclic aromatic, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino or cycloalkylalkylamino, with the proviso that carbocyclic aromatic is not phenyl;

and with the proviso that at least R_1 or R_2 is present.

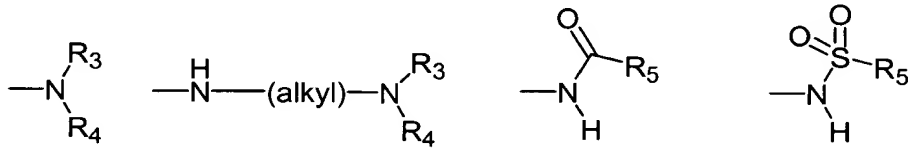
2. (Previously Presented) A compound having one of the following structures:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 represents nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):

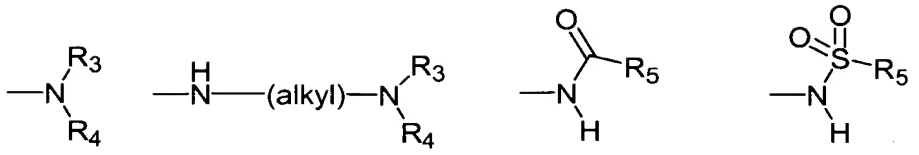


(a) (b) (c) (d)

when R_1 is present, R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino);

when R_1 is present, R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino or cycloalkylalkylamino;

R_2 represents nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):

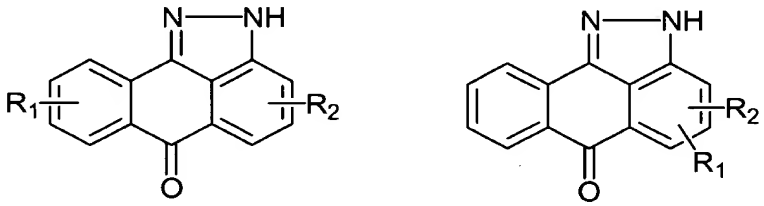


(a) (b) (c) (d)

when R_2 is present, R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

when R_2 is present, R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, carbocyclic aromatic, heterocyclic aromatic, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino or cycloalkylalkylamino with the proviso that carbocyclic aromatic is not phenyl.

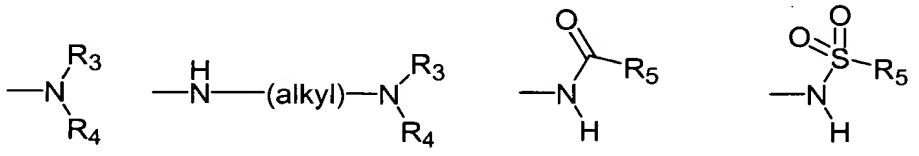
3. (Currently Amended) A compound having one of the following structures:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 and R_2 <u>independently</u> represent alkyl, halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):

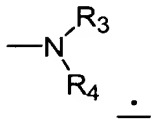


(a) (b) (c) (d)

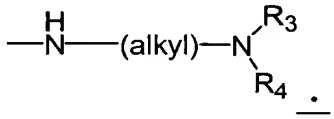
~~R_3 and R_4 taken together represent alkylidene or a heteroatom-containing alkylidene, or~~ R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino or cycloalkylalkylamino.

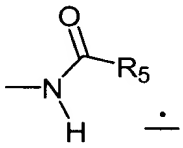
4. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 2 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



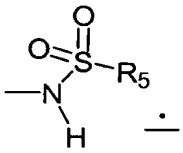
5. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 2 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



6. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 2 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



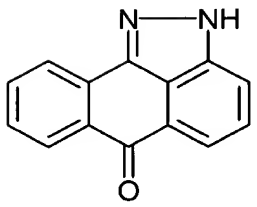
7. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 2 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



8. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

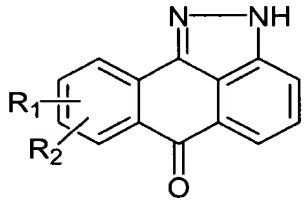
9-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound having the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

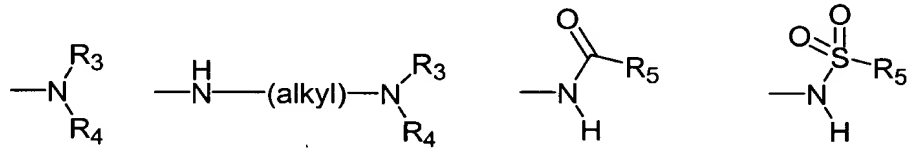
25. (Previously Presented) A compound having the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 and R_2 are optional substituents that are the same or different and independently represent, nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



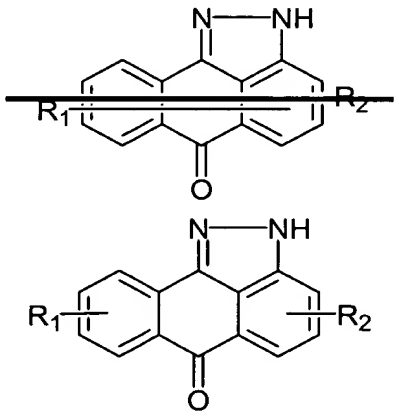
(a) (b) (c) (d)

R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino or cycloalkylalkylamino;

and with the proviso that at least one of R_1 or R_2 is present.

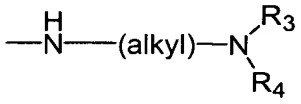
26. (Currently Amended) A compound having the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

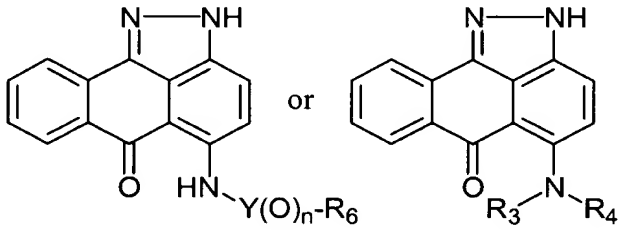
R_1 and R_2 are optional substituents that are the same or different and independently represent:



wherein R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino);

and with the proviso that at least R_1 or R_2 is present.

27. (Previously Presented) A compound having one of the following structures:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

Y is C or S;

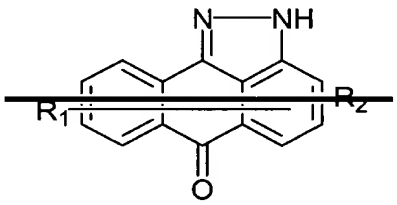
n is 1 when Y is C;

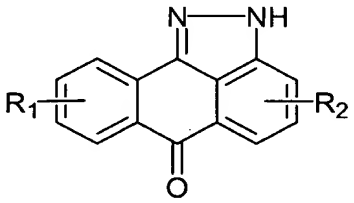
n is 2 when Y is S;

R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

R_6 represents phenyl, pyridinyl, thienyl or alkyl.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a condition, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound having the structure:

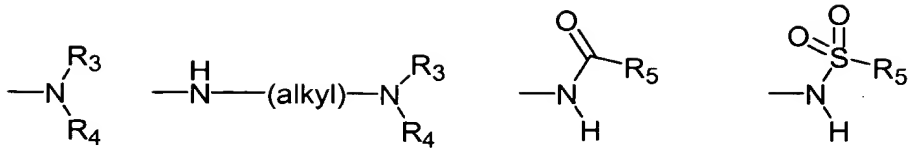




or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 and R_2 are optional substituents that are the same or different and independently represent alkyl, halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



(a) (b) (c) (d)

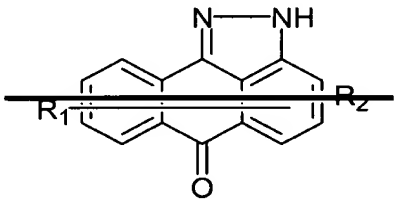
R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

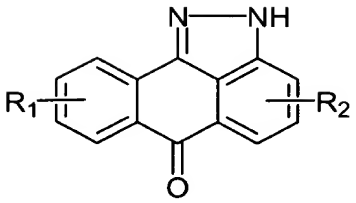
R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino, or cycloalkylalkylamino,

~~the~~ wherein said condition ~~being~~ is cancer; rheumatoid arthritis; rheumatoid spondylitis; osteoarthritis; gout; asthma; bronchitis; cystic fibrosis; inflammatory bowel disease; irritable bowel syndrome; mucous colitis; ulcerative colitis; Crohn's disease; gastritis; esophagitis; hepatitis; multiple sclerosis; endotoxin shock; psoriasis; eczema; dermatitis; atherosclerosis; restenosis following angioplasty; left ventricular hypertrophy; myocardial infarction; stroke or ischemic damage to the heart, kidney, liver, or brain; transplant rejection; or a central or peripheral neurological degenerative disorder.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the central or peripheral neurological degenerative disorder is epilepsy, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, amyotrophic laterial sclerosis, a peripheral neuropathy or spinal cord damage.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting JNK in a cell capable of expressing JNK, comprising contacting said cell with an effective amount of a compound having the structure:

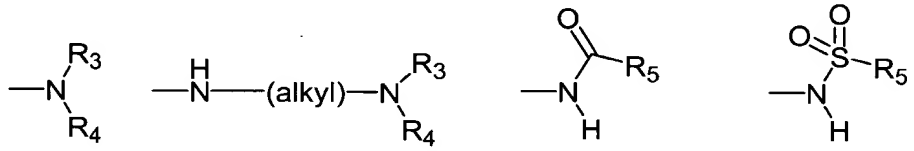




or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 and R_2 are optional substituents that are the same or different and independently represent alkyl, halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):

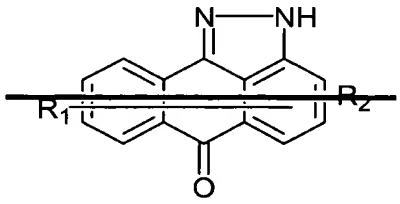


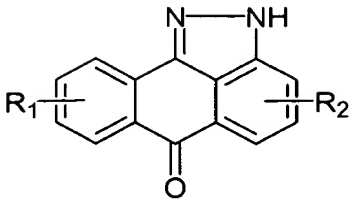
(a) (b) (c) (d)

R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino, or cycloalkylalkylamino.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting JNK, comprising contacting JNK with an effective amount of a compound having the structure:

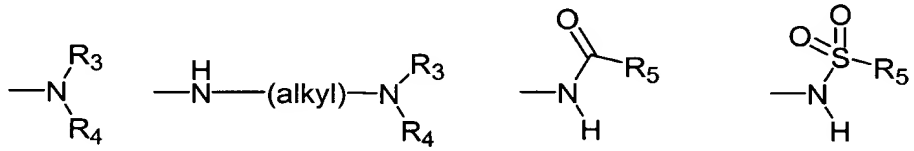




or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R_1 and R_2 are optional substituents that are the same or different and independently represent alkyl, halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, sulfonyl, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, aminoalkoxy, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkoxy, or a group represented by formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



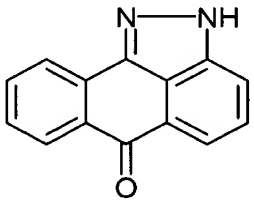
(a) (b) (c) (d)

R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and independently represent hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyamino, or alkoxy(mono- or di-alkylamino); and

R_5 represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, cycloalkylamino, or cycloalkylalkylamino.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 or 31, wherein the JNK is JNK1, JNK2 or JNK3.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, 30 or 31, wherein the compound has the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

34. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 8 ~~or 24~~, wherein the composition is a pharmaceutical composition.

35. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 8 ~~or 24~~, wherein the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound is present in an amount that is effective for inhibiting JNK.

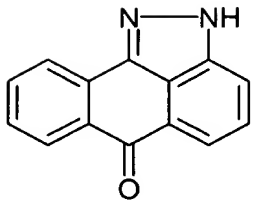
36. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 8 ~~or 24~~, wherein the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound is present in an amount that is effective for treating cancer; rheumatoid arthritis; rheumatoid spondylitis; osteoarthritis; gout; asthma; bronchitis; cystic fibrosis; inflammatory bowel disease; irritable bowel syndrome; mucous colitis; ulcerative colitis; Crohn's disease; gastritis; esophagitis; hepatitis; multiple sclerosis; endotoxin shock; psoriasis; eczema; dermatitis; atherosclerosis; restenosis following angioplasty; left ventricular hypertrophy; myocardial infarction; stroke or ischemic damage to the heart, kidney, liver, or brain; transplant rejection; or a central or peripheral neurological degenerative disorder.

37. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 36, wherein the central or peripheral neurological degenerative disorder is epilepsy, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, amyotrophic laterial sclerosis, a peripheral neuropathy or spinal cord damage.

38. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim <u>24 or</u> 34, wherein the composition is in the form of a pill, tablet or capsule.

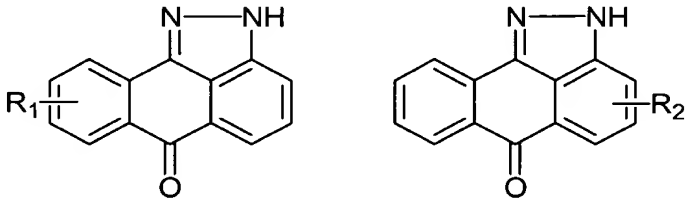
39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein ~~R_1 and R_2 are not present, and~~ the compound ~~having the following structure~~ <u>is</u>:



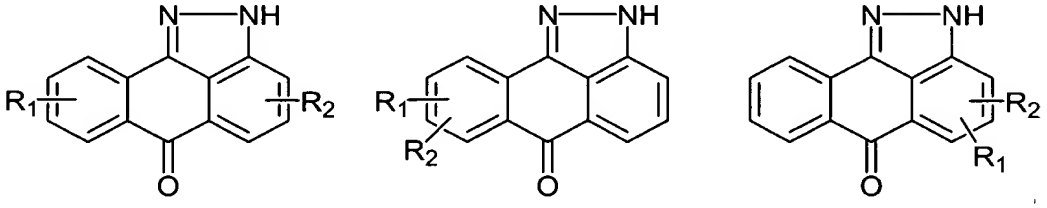
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein R_1 or R_2 is present, and the compound ~~having~~ has one of the following structures:



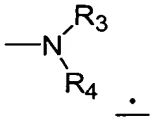
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein both R_1 and R_2 are present, and the compound ~~having~~ has one of the following structures:

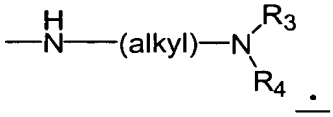


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

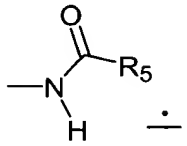
43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



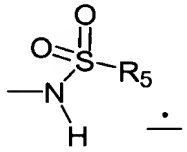
44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein R_1 and R_2 are:



47. (New) The composition of claim 24 or 34, wherein the composition is suitable for oral administration.

48. (New) The composition of claim 24 or 34, wherein the composition is suitable for parenteral administration.

49. (New) The composition of claim 24 or 34, wherein the compound is present in an amount from 0.1 mg to 250 mg per dosage.

50. (New) The composition of claim 24 or 34, wherein the compound is present in an amount from 1 mg to 60 mg per dosage.

51. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

52. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound of claim 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

53. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound of claim 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

54. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound of claim 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.